

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Robert A. Levine et al.
Serial No. : 10/523,096
Filed : August 31, 2005
Entitled : CARDIAC DEVICES AND METHODS FOR MINIMALLY
INVASIVE REPAIR OF ISCHEMIC MITRAL
REGURGITATION
Group Art Unit : 3739
Examiner : To be determined
Confirmation No. : 8398

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449, and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of the United States patent references listed on the Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed, but the PCT, foreign and non-patent references are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute “prior art.” If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute “prior art” under

United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

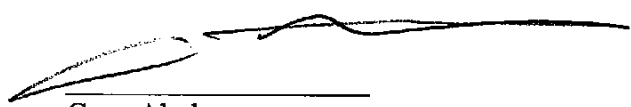
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This submission is being filed before any action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the merits. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-2054.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

December 29, 2006



Gary Abelev
PTO Reg. No. 40,479
Attorneys for Applicants
(212) 415-9371